

March 12, 2019  
Board Meeting

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana was held in the Nature Center building, located in the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation Area, Benton, Louisiana on the above date with the following:

Present: Walter Bigby, Alan Warren, Gary Wyche, Jerry Fowler and Robert Berry

Absent: None

Also Present: Chelle Carroll, Alex Vozella, Donna Page, Frank Zey, Mathew McGill, Charlie Branagan, Paul Davidson, Rosemarie Goin, Anne Timmers, Ed Cooper, Ryan Gatti, Bruce and Brenda Arnold, Matthew and Wendi Marshall

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Mr. Wyche. Roll call was made by Chelle Carroll.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Fowler. The prayer was given by Mr. Warren.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Warren. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 02-12-2019 Monthly Meeting was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 02-28-2019 Special Board Meeting was made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Warren. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

**Nature Center Report:** Read by Kelly Kruithof

Total number impacted by Cypress Nature Study Center 519

*Memorandum:*

Several Groups had to cancel in February due to weather, but have been rescheduled. Thank you to Mr. Attaway for donating 1 King Eider Drake, 2 King Eider hens, and a standing Tundra Swan.

*Coming Soon:*

Spring Break for Bossier Parish next week

**Director's Report:** Given by Robert Berry

- We have been discussing options with Comstock regarding buying water.
- We have a full time deputy staying on site.

**New Business:**

- Calling of a Special Election to Levy the Ad Valorem Property Tax Millage
1. The following resolution was offered by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler.

CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-001

A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, ON OCTOBER 12, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS RESIDING IN THE DISTRICT QUALIFIED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, A PROPOSITION FOR LEVY OF AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING ITS FACILITIES, AND MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE BOND COMMISSION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District of Bossier Parish, Louisiana, (the "District") deems it necessary and desirable that the electorate of the Parish consider, at an election called for such purpose, a proposition authorizing levy of a special ad valorem tax of 3.00 mills for a period of ten (10) years beginning January 1, 2020, upon all taxable property within the District for the purpose of improving, operating and maintaining its facilities within and for the District; and

**WHEREAS**, authority for the imposition of the special ad valorem tax within the District for such purpose is granted by Article VI, Section 32 of the Constitution of 1974 of the State of Louisiana, and Section 2601 of Chapter 13 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 38:2601, *et seq.*), and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, provided the levy of such tax is first authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of the District voting on the proposition at an election to be held for such purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with La. R.S. 42:19.1, notice of intention to call an election for submittal of a proposition for levy of such ad valorem property tax for the purpose of providing for improving, operating and maintaining its facilities within and for the District was announced to the public during the course of its February 12, 2019 meeting, and published on February 13, 2019, in the *Bossier Press Tribune*, the official journal of the District, and actual notice was given by email on February 8, 2019, to each state senator and representative in whose district all or a portion of the District is located; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners, governing authority of the District, desires to provide for holding an election at which the proposition for levying such special tax may be submitted;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Cypress-Black Water Recreation and Water Conservation District of the Parish of Bossier, Louisiana:

**SECTION 1.** Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by Article VI, Section 32 of the Constitution of 1974 of the State of Louisiana, and Section 2601 of Chapter 13 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 38:2601, *et seq.*), and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, a special election be and is hereby called and ordered to be held in the District, on **Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019**,

between the hours of seven (7:00) o'clock a.m. and eight (8:00) o'clock p.m., in compliance with the provisions of Section 1181 of Title 18 and of Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and that at said special election there be submitted to all the qualified electors of the District entitled and qualified to vote at said election under the Constitution and laws of the United States, the following proposition:

**MAINTENANCE MILLAGE PROPOSITION**

Shall Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District of the Parish of Bossier, Louisiana, be authorized to levy and collect an ad valorem tax of three and no hundredths (3.00) mills on all property subject to taxation within said District (with \$2.2 million reasonably estimated to be collected per annum) (the "Tax"), for a period of ten (10) years, commencing with the year 2020, for the purpose of improving, operating and maintaining the District's facilities for public benefit, in lieu and cancellation and termination of the 1.54 mills approved on November 4, 2014, upon initial levy of the Tax?

**SECTION 2.** There shall be published notice of said election in the *Bossier Press Tribune*, a weekly newspaper of general circulation within Bossier Parish, published in Bossier City, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the District, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date fixed for the election, which notice shall be substantially in accordance with the Notice of Special Tax Election annexed hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference, the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

**SECTION 3.** Officers designated or such substitutes as may be selected, designated and sworn in compliance with Sections 1286 through 1289 of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, shall hold the election substantially in accordance with the general election laws of the State of Louisiana, except that the election is called and shall be conducted, canvassed, and promulgated, and notice thereof given in accordance with the procedures set forth in Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. Said election officers shall make due returns of said election at a regular meeting of the District, on **the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019, at 4:00 o'clock p.m.**, at which time the Board of Commissioners, governing authority of the District will, then and there, in open and public session, examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of said special election. The compensation of election officials be and the same is hereby fixed at the sum as specified in Section 426.1 of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. Assessed valuations shall not be voted in this election, and all qualified electors of the District are entitled to vote therein. Voting machines shall be used in this election, and voters shall not be required to sign a ballot or vote assessed valuation of property. The permanent registration law of the State of Louisiana being in force in Bossier Parish, said election shall be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions thereof.

**SECTION 4.** The Secretary of the Board of Commissioners be and he is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for furnishing said election officers, in ample time for holding of said election the necessary equipment, forms and other election paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election.

**SECTION 5.** Application is hereby formally made to the State Bond Commission, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 2, Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, for consent, approval and authority to hold the aforesaid election

in the District; and in the event such election carries, pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 32 of the Constitution of 1974 of the State of Louisiana, and Section 2601 of Chapter 13 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 38:2601, *et seq.*), and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, for consent and authority to levy and collect the ad valorem taxes therein provided. The Secretary is empowered, authorized and requested to forward to the State Bond Commission a certified copy of this resolution which shall constitute a formal application to said Commission as herein provided.

**SECTION 6.** By virtue of the District’s application for, acceptance and utilization of the benefits of the Louisiana State Bond Commission’s approval(s) resolved and set forth herein, the District resolves that it understands and agrees that such approval(s) are expressly conditioned upon, and it further resolves that it understands, agrees and binds itself, its successors and assigns to, full and continuing compliance with the “State Bond Commission Policy on Approval of Proposed Use of Swaps, or other forms of Derivative Products Hedges, Etc.,” adopted by the Commission on July 20, 2006, as to the borrowing(s) and other matter(s) subject to the approval(s), including subsequent application and approval under said Policy of the implementation or use of any swap(s) or other product(s) or enhancement(s) covered thereby.

**SECTION 7.** Certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Custodian of Voting Machines in and for the Parish of Bossier, and the Registrar of Voters, as notification of the special election herein called in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as authorized and required by law.

**SECTION 8.** There being a real public necessity for the retention and employment of legal counsel to provide specialized legal services in connection with the election, and it appearing that the public interest requires obtaining of such specialized legal services, Joseph A. Delafield, A Professional Corporation, of Lake Charles, Louisiana is hereby employed for such purposes. Fees of special counsel shall be in accordance with the fee schedule of the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana.

**SECTION 9.** All resolutions, ordinances, or orders in conflict herewith, be, to the extent of such conflict, and they are hereby repealed.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Gary Wyche, President	X			
Alan Warren, Vice President	X			
Walter Bigby, Secretary	X			
Jerry Fowler, Commissioner	X			
Robert Berry, Executive Director	X	—On the contingency that the Board of Commissioners will impliment the adjusted fees.		

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

(Other business not pertinent to the foregoing resolution may be found in the official minutes of the Executive Committee of the Authority.)

CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

/s/ Gary Wyche \_\_\_\_\_  
GARY WYCHE, President

ATTEST:

/s/ Walter Bigby

WALTER BIGBY, Secretary

- Mr. Berry presented a packet on how the millage would affect what people pay now compared to what they would pay at the 3.00 mills. There was also some discussion regarding adjusting fees.

2. The Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, met in regular public session at 4:00 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at the regular meeting place of said Board, 135 Cypress Park Drive in Benton, Louisiana, pursuant to the provisions of written notice given to each and every member thereof and duly posted in the manner required by law.

The President called the meeting to order and on roll call, the following members were

PRESENT: Gary Wyche, Alan Warren, Walt Bigby, Jerry Fowler, and Robert Berry

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order and the roll called with the above results.

Thereupon, the following resolution was then introduced, and pursuant to motion made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Fowler, was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS: Mr. Berry, Mr. Bigby, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Warren, Mr. Wyche

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-002

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE DESCRIBING THE  
GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS OF CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION AND  
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana:

SECTION 1. That the geographic location of Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, was added by Acts 1958, No. 292, Section 2, and amended by Acts 1964, No. 305, Section 1 and Acts 1968, No. 502, Section 1, be and same is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

SECTION 2. That the President and Executive Director of this Board are empowered, authorized and requested to cause to be published a public notice describing the geographic limits of Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District of the Parish of Bossier, Louisiana, said publication to be made in the *Bossier Press Tribune*, in the same edition as the Notice to Voters is

published, pertaining to the special election authorized for Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, by resolution adopted this date.

Adopted and approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

(Other business not pertinent to the foregoing resolution may be found in the official minutes of the Executive Committee of the Authority.)

CYPRESS-BLACK BAYOU RECREATION  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
/s/ Gary Wyche  
GARY WYCHE, President

ATTEST:

/s/ Walter Bigby  
WALTER BIGBY, Secretary

**Old Business:**

- Hall Property

A motion to move forward to revoke the 2016 act of exchange on the basis of the original DPW line was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion was made to enter into executive session by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion was made to come out of executive session back into the regular meeting was made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Bigby to adjourn the meeting. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

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Gary Wyche, President

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Alan Warren, Vice-President